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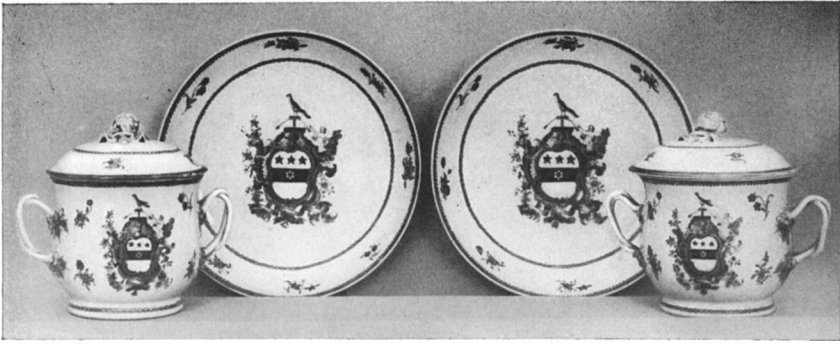
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LOWESTOFT PORCELAIN. BEQUEST OF JAMES T. WOODWARD

PRINCIPAL ACCESSIONS

BEQUEST OF JAMES T. WOODWARD—Through the bequest of Mr. James T. Woodward, there has lately been received by the Museum a remarkable service of sino-Lowestoft porcelain, comprising some two hundred and ninety-seven pieces. Tastefully decorated with floral designs in rich overglazed enamels, the pieces are further embellished with oval medallions containing the arms of the Chase family, one of the oldest families of Maryland, for whom the service was originally made. This set, known for over a hundred years as the Chase china, is worthy of note, not alone for the unusual number of pieces that even to-day make up almost an entire set, but also for the unwonted excellence of the *famille rose* enamels which decorate it. As representative of the finer ware of the type, this porcelain is a most welcome addition to the colonial section of the Museum.

G. C. P.

ARMS AND ARMOR.—Dr. George M. Lefferts has recently presented to the Museum his collection of Japanese arms and armor, including twelve complete harnesses, accessories, swords, and shafted weapons, together with numerous books of reference. These were collected by Dr. Lefferts in Kyoto and Osaka about twenty years ago, and, on his return to this coun-

try, were carefully catalogued and exhibited at the Union League Club (1893)—the first important series of these objects, we believe, to be placed on view in the United States. The armor is mainly of eighteenth-century workmanship and of excellent design. Two of the suits, wrought by members of the Miöchin family of artist-armorers, are accompanied by certificates of ancient experts. One of these documents, dated 1738, states that part of the armor belonged to a certain prime minister; that the casque was made by Miöchin Masuda (of the thirty-second generation of Miöchin) of Izumo; the remainder of the suit by (Miöchin) Muneyasu (tenth generation) in the year 1352. The other certificate relates to a fifteenth-century harness designed and executed by Hoshi-hiro. Every harness is of high class. One is of the generalissimo type, of gilded laminæ, corded with scarlet silk; two are corded with purple silk, as in armor of highest daimios; and several have helmets with large ear pieces and wide and deep shoulder guards, which serve as marks of quality. In a number of instances the objects bear inscriptions indicating the part of Japan in which they were made and under what daimios—data particularly important to the student of armor who seeks to follow the changes in design.

Still another suit of Japanese armor has lately come to the Museum by the gift of

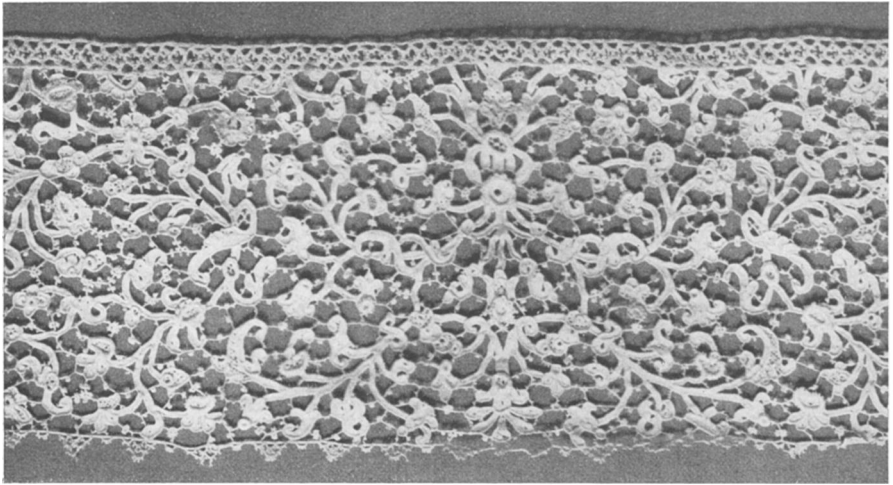
Mr. Marshall C. Lefferts. It is of modern form, dating probably from the first decade of the nineteenth century, and as with it several accessories hitherto unrepresented in our gallery.

Mr. William H. Riggs, of Paris, a former trustee and vice president of the Museum, has lately enriched the collection with several Oriental arms. These include a Turkish saber of the seventeenth century, with silver mountings; a Rajput *tulwar*, eighteenth century, ornamented in silver gilt, and a Rajput double-pointed dagger, a kind of *adarque*.

An important series of firearms of the eighteenth century and the first decade of the nineteenth has been loaned by Mr. Frederick Sherman Rook. This includes

works of the most famous artist-gunsmiths of the epoch, among others, Boutet, Pirnet, Barzabal, Le Page, Hollandais, and Lazarino Cominazo. All are of finished workmanship, elaborately decorated, and in perfect condition. Many are preserved in their original cases and appear never to have been discharged. B. D.

GIFT OF RARE LACES.—The lace collection has been greatly enriched by two gifts of a number of pieces of rare seventeenth-century *Point de Venise* laces, presented to the Museum by anonymous donors in memory of Mrs. William H. Herriman. The collection consists of two large, remarkably beautiful flounces, a barbe and three smaller pieces.



VENICE POINT. SEVENTEENTH CENTURY